



HINE • MEDINA • SICAT

MUTOPIA™

MARVEL

**LIMITED
SERIES**

3 OF 5



André Park

Previously in the Marvel Universe...

MAGNETO has lost the war against the humans, the war for which he sacrificed the well-being of his children. Now he is forced to watch his daughter Wanda suffer the loss of control over both her powers and her grip on reality.

PROFESSOR XAVIER, unable to help Wanda, gathers the Avengers and the X-MEN to decide what to do with her. Not convinced that killing her is the only solution, the gathered heroes travel to GENOSHA to confront Wanda.

Then the world burns to white. Welcome to the House of M. Nothing will ever be the same...

HOUSE OF M MUTOPIA

Not all is well in the House of M. Mutant/Sapiens relationships are as tense as ever.

A string of Sapien terrorist attacks have brought mutant cop LUCAS BISHOP and Sapiens special agent ISMAEL ORTEGA together as partners. They are sent to protect entertainment mogul (and suspected gangster) DANIEL KAUFMAN at his most recent movie premiere. There is an attack at the premiere and during the melee, Ismael and Kaufman's girlfriend, LARA THE ILLUSIONIST, share a moment together.

The next day, Ismael gets into a fight with his wife, ARMENA, about their daughter. Armena - a mutant - wants their daughter to go through the Rite of Transcendence, a ceremony which brings out the "inner mutant" in children. Ismael doesn't like this idea at all. This argument is one of many he's had of late with his wife, and the next day Ismael finds himself meeting up with Lara at a bar. They get to talking, and one thing leads to another...

Events take a nasty turn after that. One of Kaufman's goons sees Ismael with Lara and beats the snot out of him. Soon thereafter, Ismael receives word that authorities have found the terrorist safe house. He and Bishop go to investigate, but are nearly blown up by a missile. And if that wasn't enough, the front page of the following day's The Pulse is a close-up picture of Lara and Ismael kissing!

Writer
David Hine

Penciler
Lan Medina

Inker
Alejandro "Boy" Sicat

Colorist
Avalon's Dave Kemp

Letterers
Richard Starkings &
Comicraft's Jimmy B

Associate Editor
Nick Lowe

Editor
Sean Ryan

Supervising Editor
Mike Marts

Editor in Chief
Joe Quesada

Publisher
Dan Buckley



HEY BISHOP,
YOU THINK YOU
USED ENOUGH
FIREPOWER?

ALRIGHT,
LET'S SECURE
THE AREA AND
GET FORENSICS
IN HERE TO SEE
WHAT THEY CAN
DO WITH THIS
MESS.

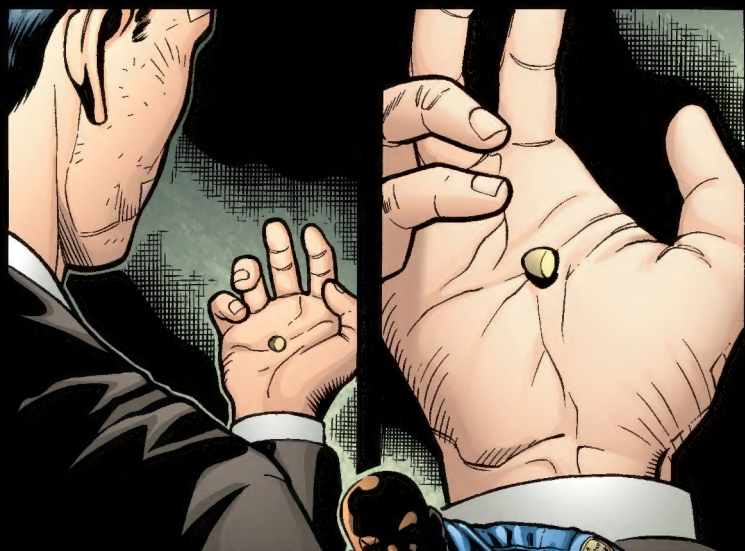


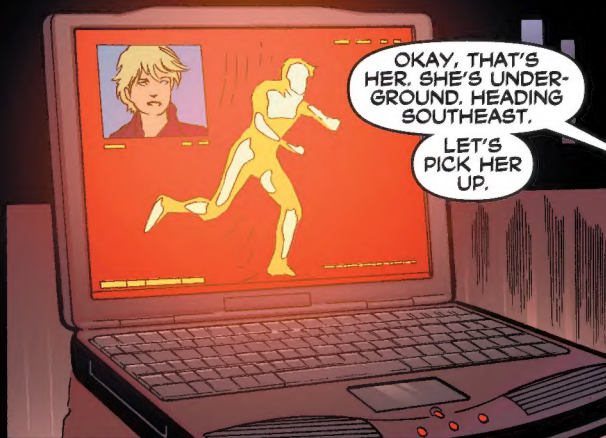
HEY,
TAKE A LOOK
AT THIS.

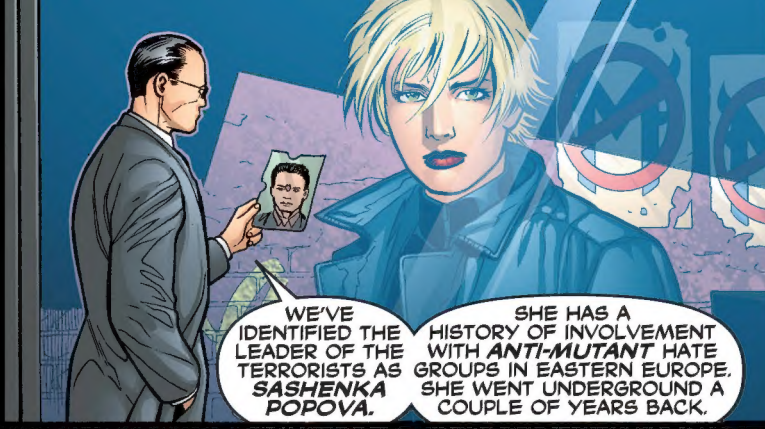


LOOKS LIKE
SOMEONE'S GOT
IT IN FOR YOU,
ORTEGA.



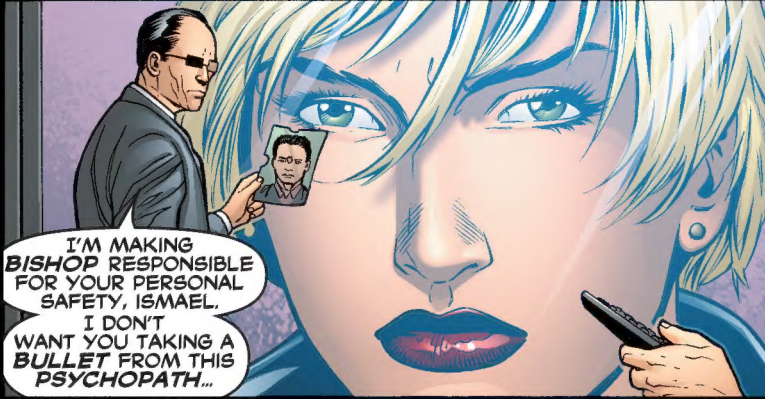
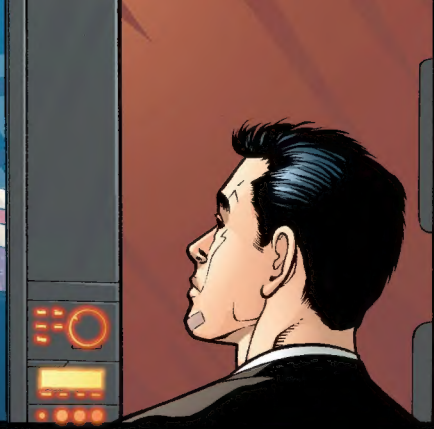






WE'VE IDENTIFIED THE LEADER OF THE TERRORISTS AS **SASHENKA POPOVA**.

SHE HAS A HISTORY OF INVOLVEMENT WITH **ANTI-MUTANT** HATE GROUPS IN EASTERN EUROPE. SHE WENT UNDERGROUND A COUPLE OF YEARS BACK.



I'M MAKING **BISHOP** RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR PERSONAL SAFETY, ISMAEL. I DON'T WANT YOU TAKING A **BULLET** FROM THIS **PSYCHOPATH**...



"...YOU AND YOUR FAMILY WILL BE UNDER SURVEILLANCE TWENTY-FOUR / SEVEN."

YOU WANT TO COME IN FOR A NIGHTCAP?

ORTEGA, THE SUN HAS BEEN UP FOR **THREE HOURS!** I'M HEADING HOME.

JIMI WILL TAKE THE FIRST WATCH. IF YOUR FAMILY NEEDS TO GO ANYWHERE, MAKE A CALL. I'LL SEND OFFICERS TO ESCORT THEM.

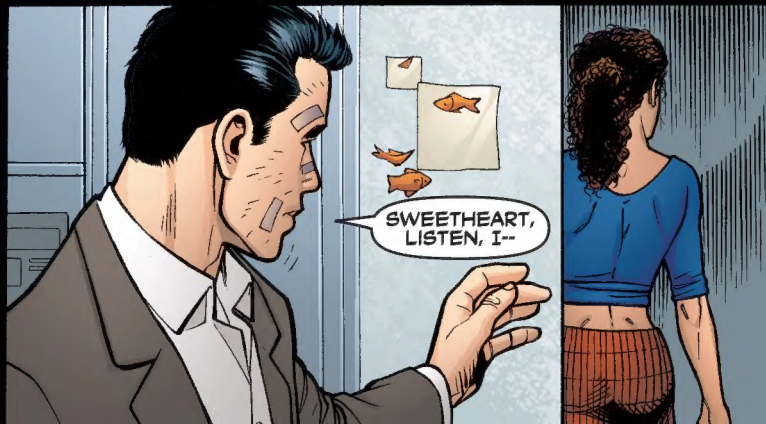
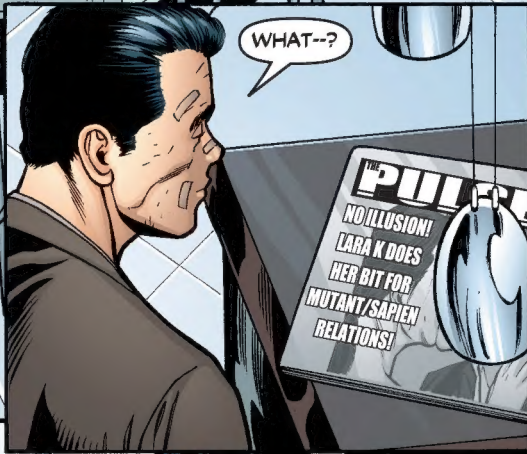


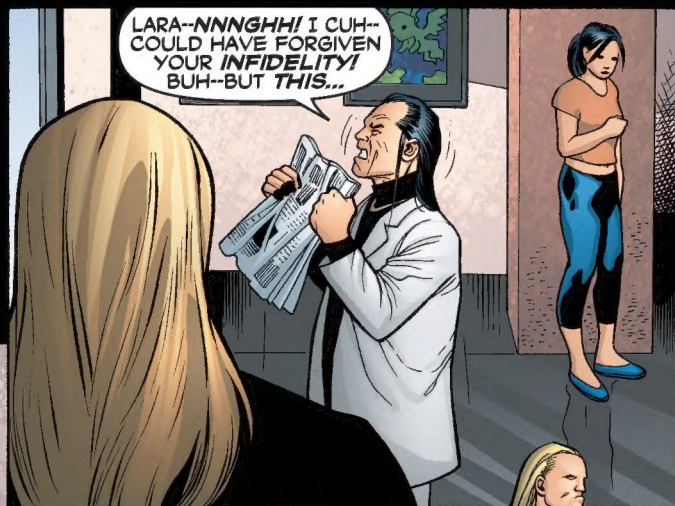
HEY, BISHOP. THANKS FOR... YOU KNOW... THAT THING WITH THE BULLET.

YOU MEAN THE SAVING-YOUR-LIFE THING? NO PROBLEM.



YOU'D DO THE SAME FOR ME.





LARA-NNNGHH! I CUH--
COULD HAVE FORGIVEN
YOUR **INFIDELITY!**
BUH-BUT **THIS...**



THIS!

DO YOU KNOW HOW HUH--**HARD**
I WORK TO KEEP THOSE MUCK-
RAKERS FROM DUH-DIGGING
UP **DIRT** ON ME?
HOW
COULD YOU BE SO
CARELESS?!



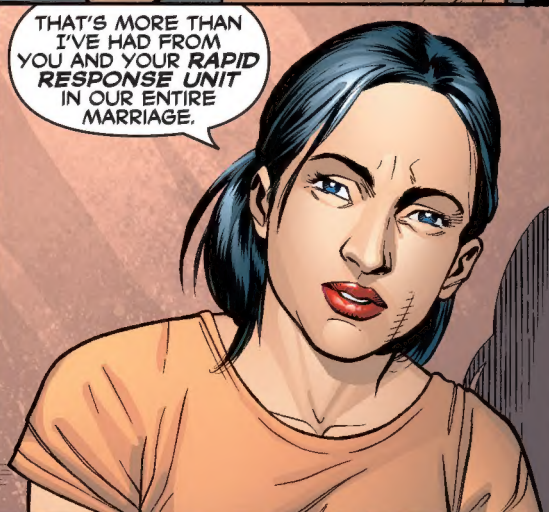
JUST
LET ME GO,
DANIEL.

I
DON'T WANT
ANYTHING FROM
YOU. I'LL LEAVE
WITH JUST THE
CLOTHES I'M
WEARING.



AND WHERE WOULD
YOU GO?
YOU THINK **ORTEGA**
WANTS YOU?! NOW
THAT HE'S HAD HIS HOUR
OF FUH-FUN WITH YOU IN
THAT SUH-SLEAZY
HOTEL ROOM?

WELL AT
LEAST I HAD
AN **HOUR.**



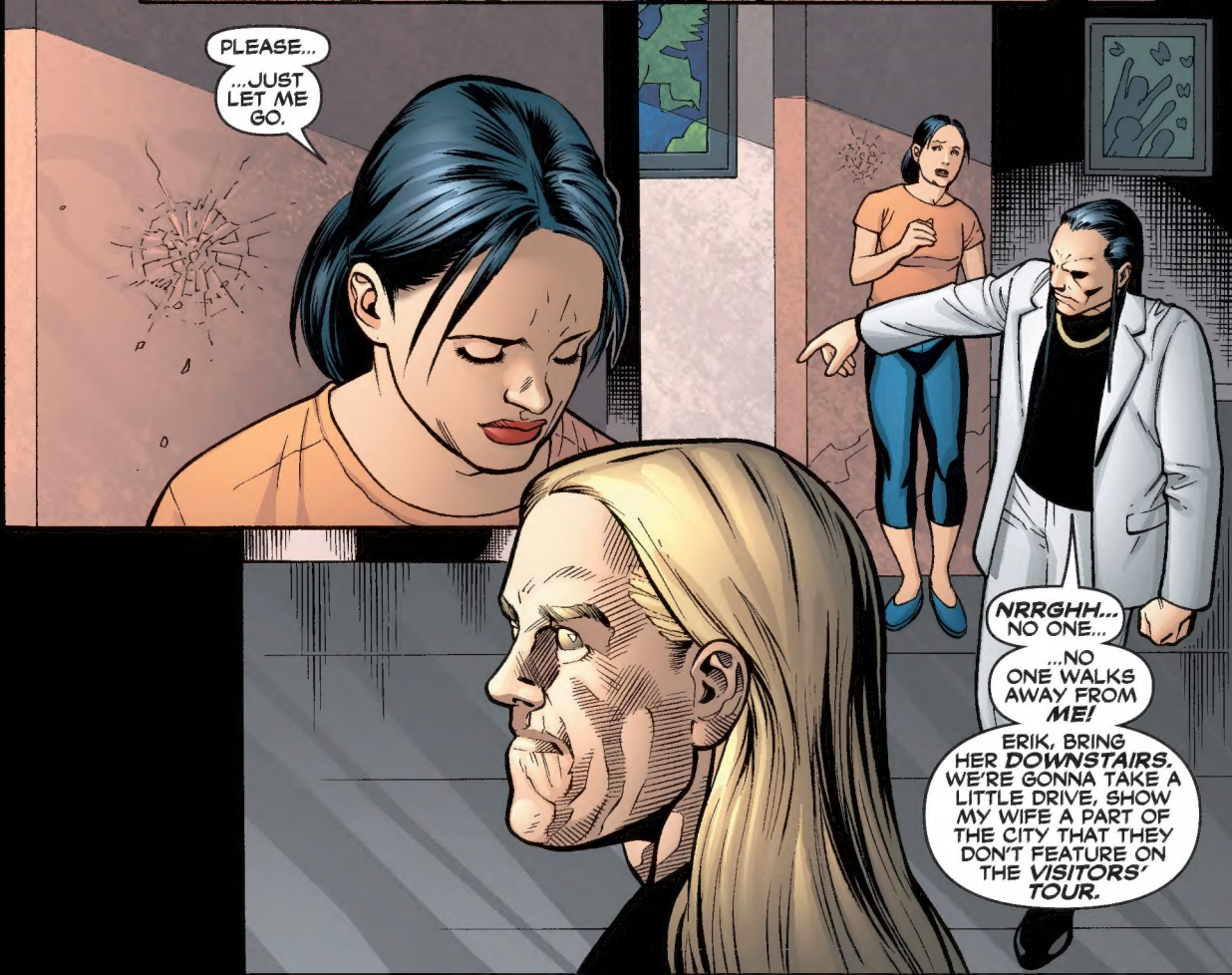
THAT'S MORE THAN
I'VE HAD FROM
YOU AND YOUR **RAPID
RESPONSE UNIT**
IN OUR ENTIRE
MARRIAGE.



NYAARRGH!

NYAARRGH!

SMACK



PLEASE...
...JUST
LET ME
GO.

NRRGHH...
NO ONE...

...NO
ONE WALKS
AWAY FROM
ME!

ERIK, BRING
HER **DOWNSTAIRS**.
WE'RE GONNA TAKE A
LITTLE DRIVE, SHOW
MY WIFE A PART OF
THE CITY THAT THEY
DON'T FEATURE ON
THE **VISITORS'**
TOUR.



DON'T,
ERIK.



DON'T
YOU TOUCH
ME!



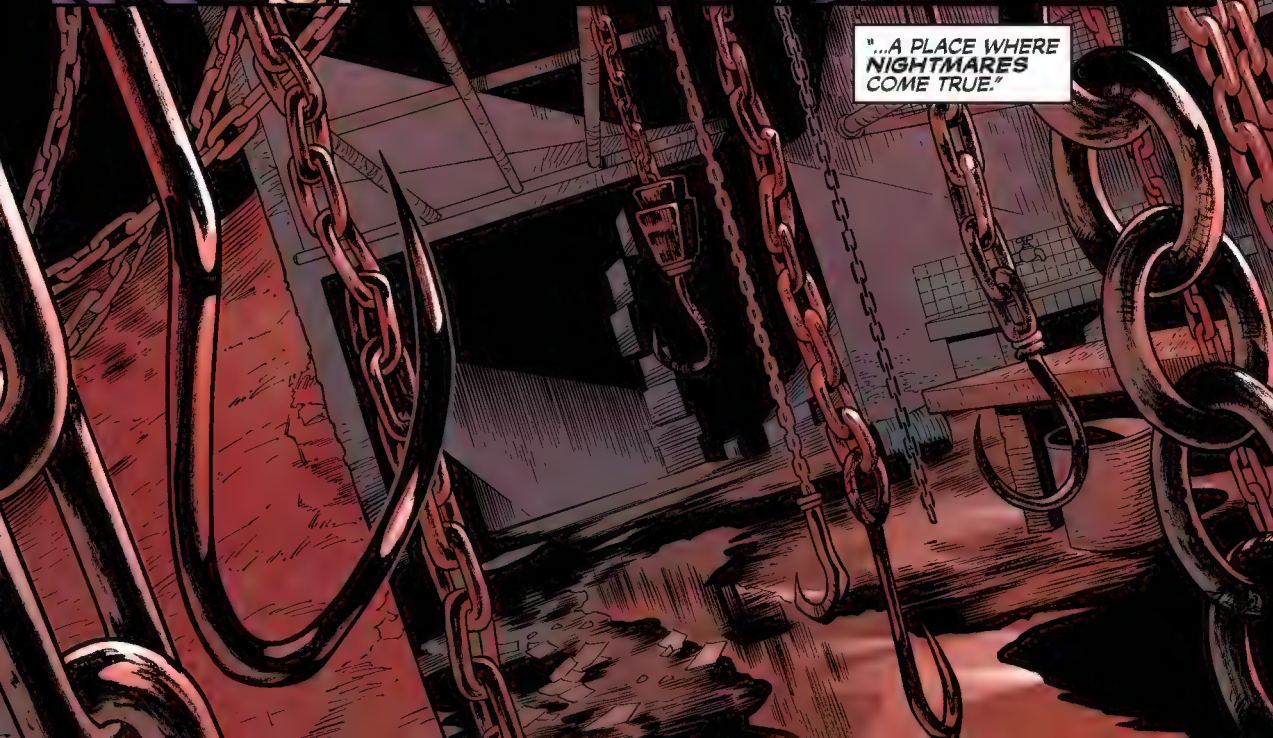
LARA, YOUR
ILLUSIONS DON'T
IMPRESS EITHER
OF US.

I'M SORRY,
MRS. KAUFMAN.



WHERE
ARE YOU
TAKING
ME?

SOMEWHERE
VERY SPECIAL...



"...A PLACE WHERE
NIGHTMARES
COME TRUE."



I'M SORRY.
IT WAS JUST...
...IT
DIDN'T *MEAN*
ANYTHING.
IT WAS
NOTHING.

NOTHING.
IT'S ALWAYS
NOTHING WITH
YOU, ISN'T IT?



WHAT ABOUT
ME? WHY CAN'T I
BE ENOUGH
FOR YOU?

YOU ARE...I
MEAN...IT'S
JUST THE JOB.



I HAVE A LOT OF
PRESSURE ON ME
RIGHT NOW.

THAT'S YOUR
EXCUSE?! YOUR WORK IS
GETTING TO YOU, SO YOU
TAKE SOME LOVER?



I TOLD YOU, ISMAEL. IF THIS
HAPPENED ONE MORE TIME,
YOU'RE OUT OF HERE!

YOU CAN'T
SAY I DIDN'T
WARN YOU.

WHAT
ABOUT THE
KIDS?

HAVE YOU
THOUGHT WHAT IT
WOULD DO TO
THEM IF YOU KICK
ME OUT?

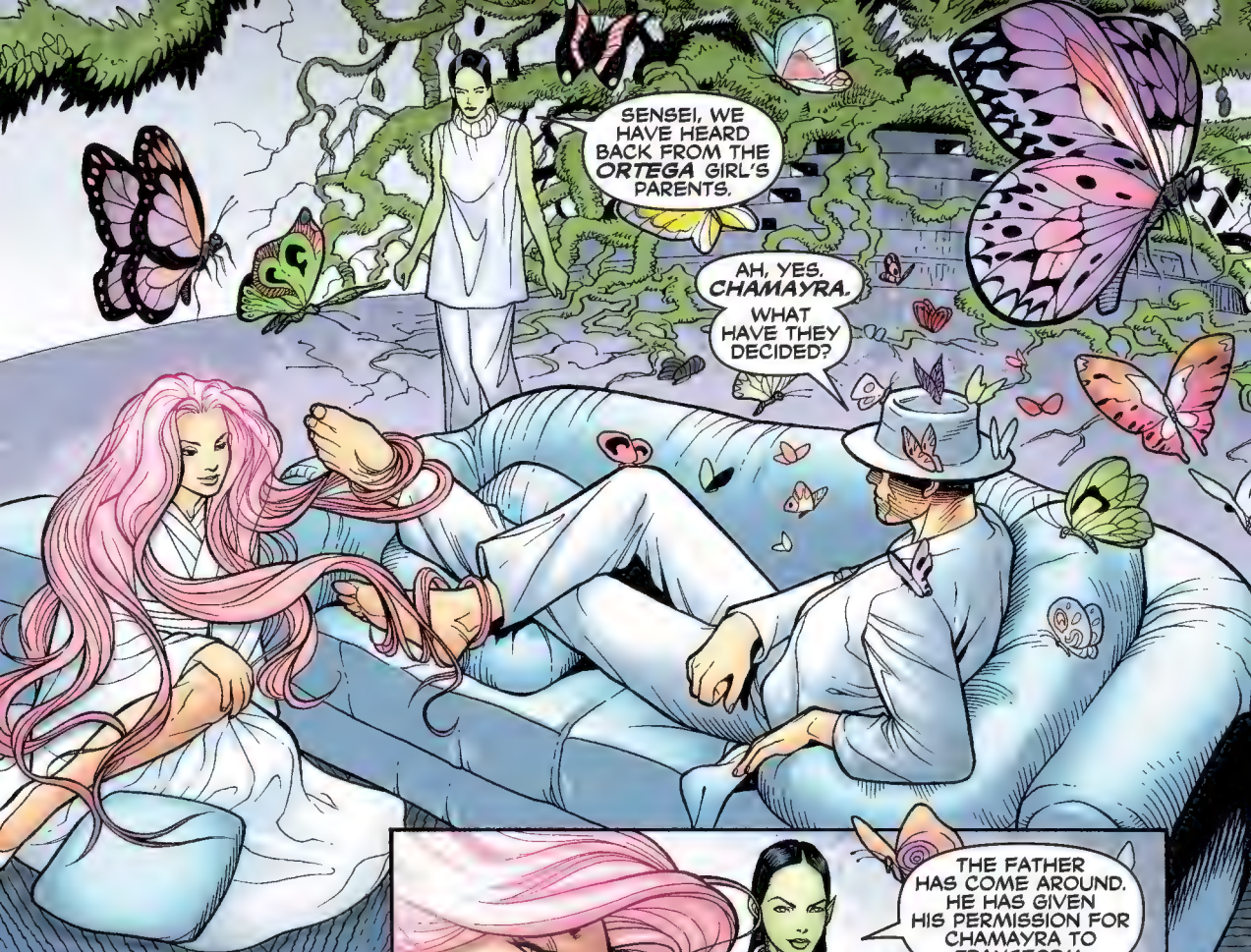


DON'T
YOU *DARE*
TRY TO
BLACKMAIL
ME, YOU
SELFISH
SON OF
A--!

MOM!



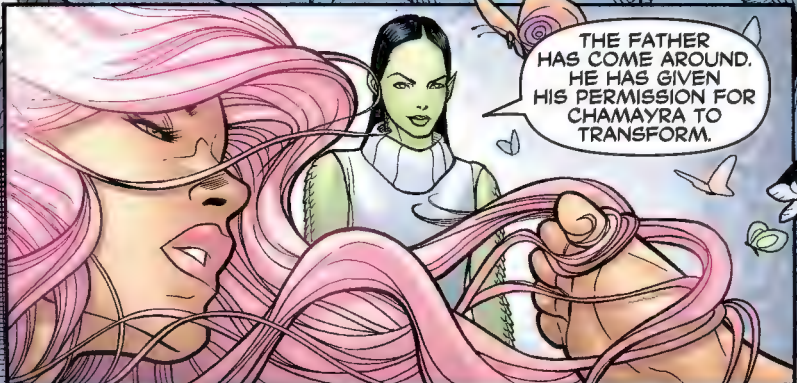




SENSEI, WE
HAVE HEARD
BACK FROM THE
ORTEGA GIRL'S
PARENTS.

AH, YES,
CHAMAYRA.
WHAT
HAVE THEY
DECIDED?

THAT MEANS THERE WILL
NOW BE **TWELVE** YOUNG
PEOPLE MAKING THE
TRANSFORMATION.



THE FATHER
HAS COME AROUND.
HE HAS GIVEN
HIS PERMISSION FOR
CHAMAYRA TO
TRANSFORM.



TWELVE
OUT OF SO
MANY...



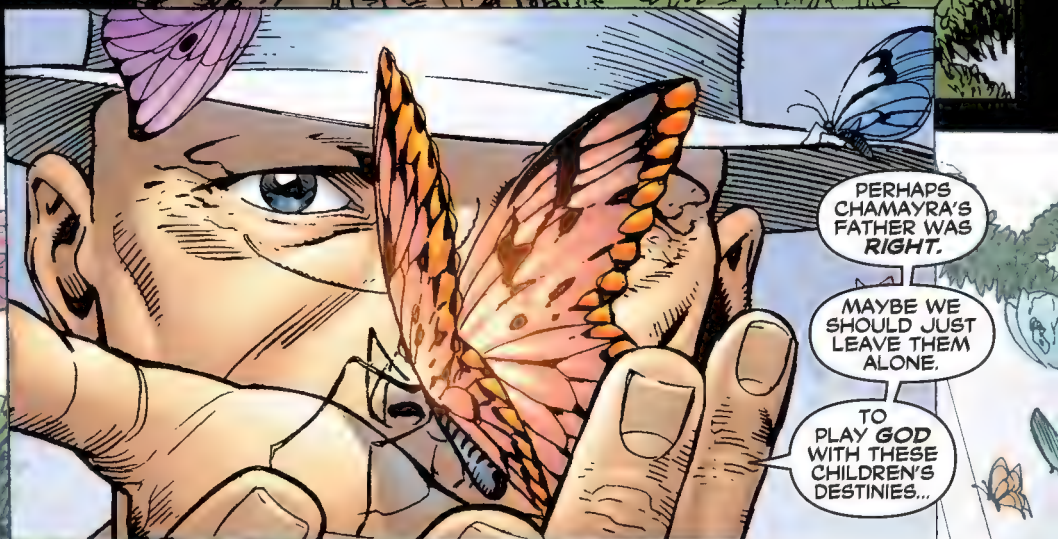
LEAVE
ME NOW.



AH, GREGOR.
HOW I WISH YOU
COULD STILL
SPEAK.

I MISS
YOUR INSIGHTS
AND YOUR
WISDOM...

...AND YOUR
TERRIBLE RUSSIAN
JOKES.



PERHAPS
CHAMAYRA'S
FATHER WAS
RIGHT.

MAYBE WE
SHOULD JUST
LEAVE THEM
ALONE.

TO
PLAY GOD
WITH THESE
CHILDREN'S
DESTINIES...



...THAT
KIND OF ARROGANCE
SURELY CANNOT GO
UNPUNISHED...



THAT COP IS
ALL OVER ORTEGA
LIKE A JEALOUS
BOYFRIEND.

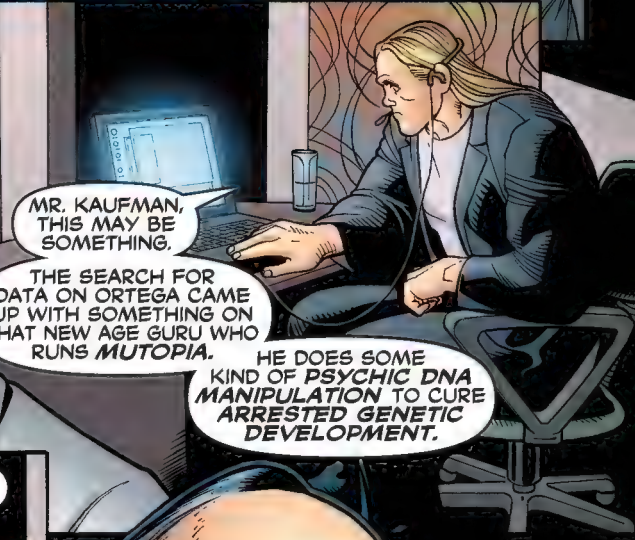
THEY'VE GOT
PEOPLE ON THE
WIFE AND
KIDS, TOO.



"WE AIN'T GETTING NEAR
THEM, MR. KAUFMAN."



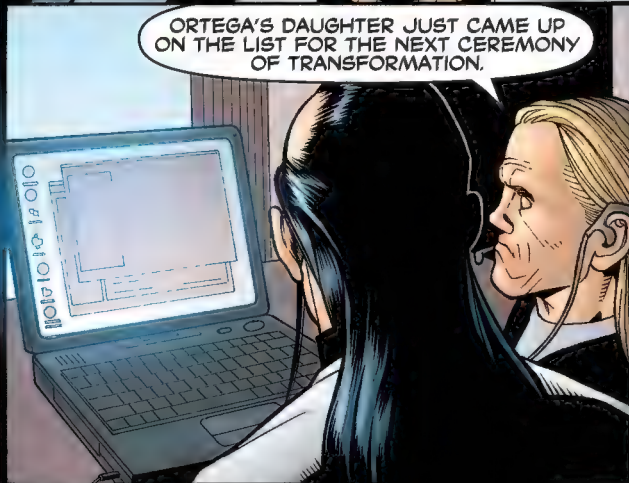
ALL RIGHT.
COME BACK
BEFORE SOMEONE
SPOTS YOU.



MR. KAUFMAN,
THIS MAY BE
SOMETHING.

THE SEARCH FOR
DATA ON ORTEGA CAME
UP WITH SOMETHING ON
THAT NEW AGE GURU WHO
RUNS *MUTOPIA*.

HE DOES SOME
KIND OF *PSYCHIC DNA*
MANIPULATION TO CURE
ARRESTED GENETIC
DEVELOPMENT.



ORTEGA'S DAUGHTER JUST CAME UP
ON THE LIST FOR THE NEXT CEREMONY
OF TRANSFORMATION.

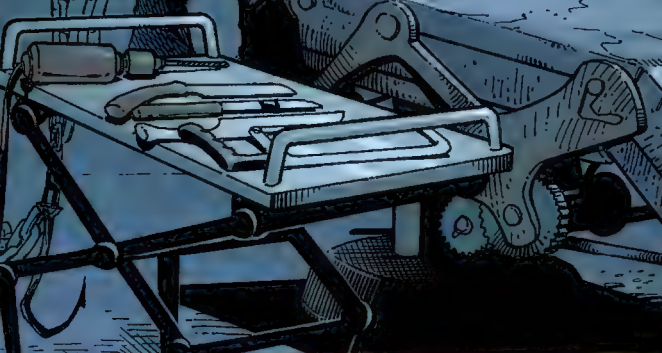


THIS
CEREMONY...
...IS IT
OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC?



TELL ME,
MS. POPOVA...
...WOULD
YOU LIKE TO
LIVE?

THE ONLY
REASON I HAVE
TO LIVE, IS TO KILL
FILTH LIKE YOU.

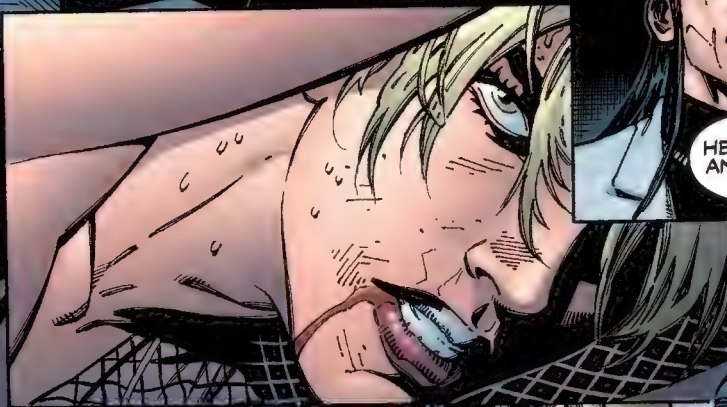


DO YOU KNOW WHY
SHE HATES MUTANTS
SO MUCH, ERIK?

WHY IS THAT,
MR. KAUFMAN?

BECAUSE
HER SISTER HAD
AN AFFAIR WITH
A MUTANT.

DAMN.



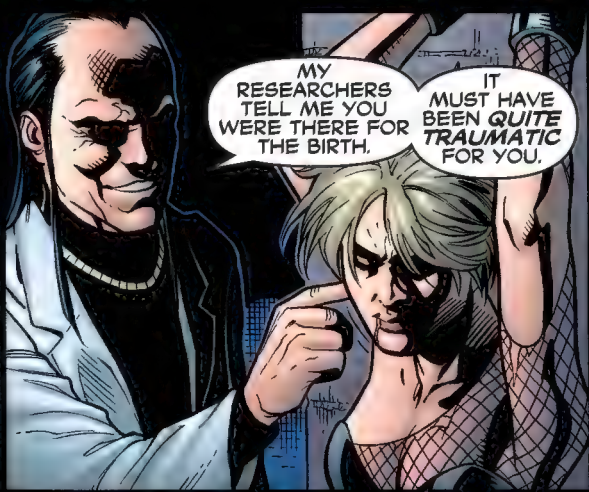
THIS
MUTANT THEN
GOT HER SISTER
PREGNANT.

VERY
CARELESS.

AND THEN HE
ABANDONED
HER.

STILL, THAT
HARDLY SEEMS
LIKE A REASON
TO SLAUGHTER
MUTANTS
WHOLESALE.





MY RESEARCHERS TELL ME YOU WERE THERE FOR THE BIRTH.

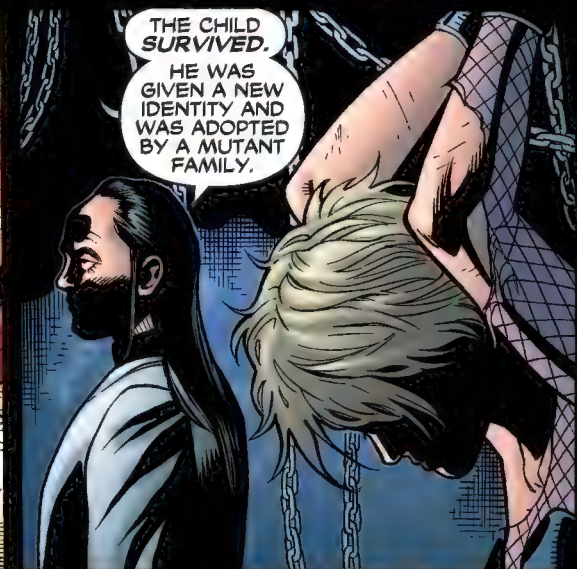
IT MUST HAVE BEEN QUITE TRAUMATIC FOR YOU.



THE LITTLE MONSTER COULDN'T WAIT TO BE BORN, COULD HE?

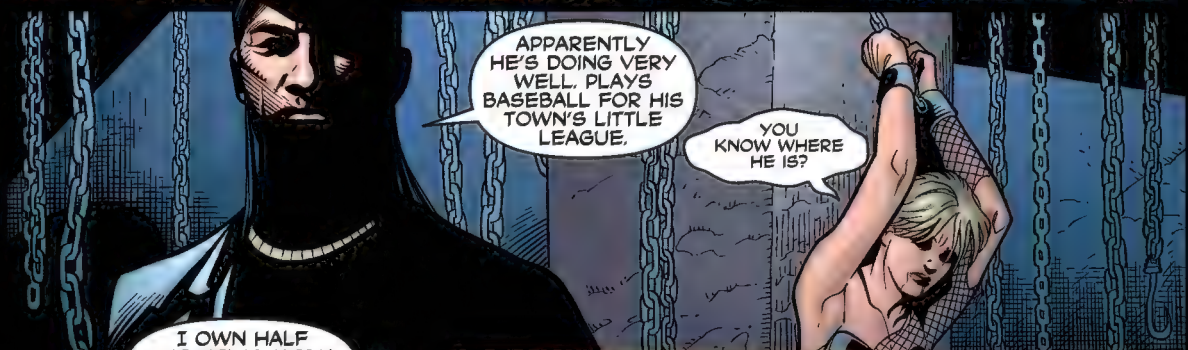


"THEY TELL ME HE ATE HIS WAY OUT."



THE CHILD SURVIVED.

HE WAS GIVEN A NEW IDENTITY AND WAS ADOPTED BY A MUTANT FAMILY.



APPARENTLY HE'S DOING VERY WELL. PLAYS BASEBALL FOR HIS TOWN'S LITTLE LEAGUE.

YOU KNOW WHERE HE IS?



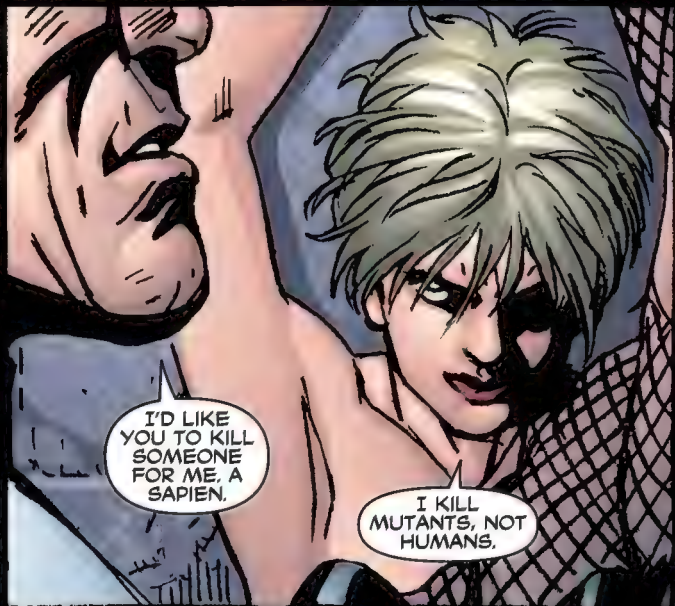
I OWN HALF THE NEWS MEDIA IN THIS COUNTRY, MS. POPOVA. I KNOW MOST THINGS.

I COULD ALSO TELL YOU WHERE THE MISSING FATHER CAN BE FOUND, SHOULD YOU EVER WANT TO PLAN A FAMILY REUNION.



NOW, MY QUESTION...ONCE AGAIN...
...WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE?

WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?



I'D LIKE YOU TO KILL SOMEONE FOR ME, A SAPIEN.

I KILL MUTANTS, NOT HUMANS.



I THINK YOU'LL MAKE AN EXCEPTION FOR THIS ONE.

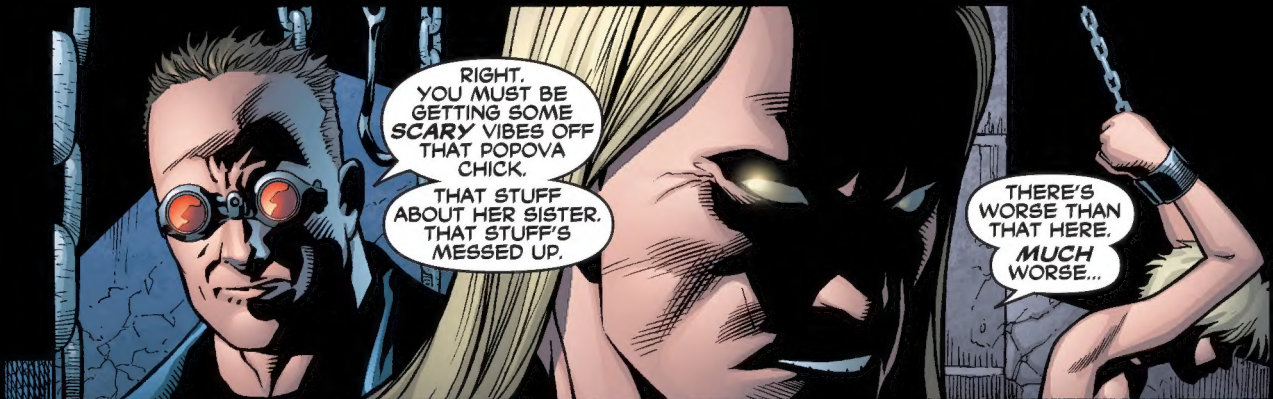


YOU TWO WAIT HERE FOR ME. I MAY BE A WHILE.



MAN, THIS PLACE GIVES ME THE CREEPS.

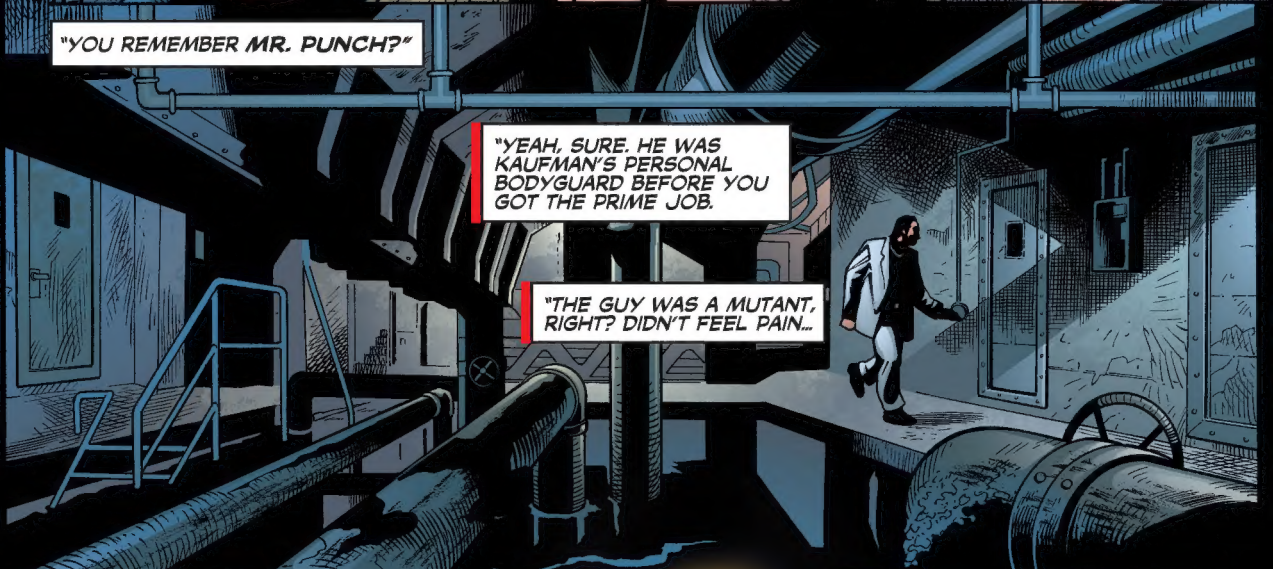
OH REALLY? THEN YOU SHOULD BE GLAD YOU'RE NOT PSYCHIC.



RIGHT.
YOU MUST BE
GETTING SOME
SCARY VIBES OFF
THAT POPOVA
CHICK.
THAT STUFF
ABOUT HER SISTER.
THAT STUFF'S
MESSED UP.

THERE'S
WORSE THAN
THAT HERE.
MUCH
WORSE...

"YOU REMEMBER MR. PUNCH?"



"YEAH. SURE. HE WAS
KAUFMAN'S PERSONAL
BODYGUARD BEFORE YOU
GOT THE PRIME JOB.

"THE GUY WAS A MUTANT,
RIGHT? DIDN'T FEEL PAIN...



"I HEARD WHEN KAUFMAN
REALLY LOST IT, HE USED TO
TAKE IT OUT ON THE BIG GUY.
USED HIM LIKE A PUNCHING BAG.



"KIND OF A WEIRD
RELATIONSHIP, IF
YOU ASK ME.



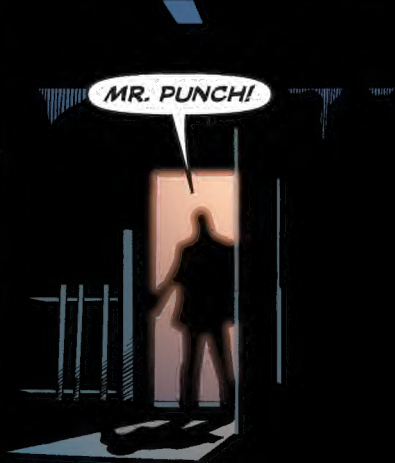
"SO WHAT HAPPENED?"



"FILTHY FRANKIE TRIED
TO WHACK THE BOSS. HE
PUT A BOMB IN HIS LIMO.



"BUT IT WAS MR. PUNCH WHO
TOOK THE BLAST. ENDED
UP IN A ZILLION PIECES."



MR. PUNCH!

"GUESS KAUFMAN
MUST MISS HIM..."

READY
WHEN YOU ARE,
MR. KAUFMAN.

"OH YEAH, HE MISSES
HIM ALL RIGHT.

YAAHH!

"MISSES HIM SO BAD HE
WENT TO STARK INDUSTRIES..."

UNNNGGHH!

"...PAID TONY STARK'S
PEOPLE A FORTUNE
TO REPLACE HIM."

NYAAARRRGH!



NYAAIEEE!

KRAK

"YOU'RE TELLING ME STARK BUILT HIM A CYBORG?"



HUF!
HUF!

"HE BUILT HIM AN ARMY.
A WHOLE DAMN ARMY
OF MR. PUNCHES!"



"WELL, WHAT HAPPENED TO FILTHY FRANKIE?
DIDN'T THIS PLACE USED TO BELONG TO HIM?
I HEARD KAUFMAN TORTURED THE GUY
TO DEATH RIGHT HERE ON HIS OWN TURF..."

"OH YEAH, MR. KAUFMAN GOT REAL
CREATIVE WITH FRANKIE...RIGHT IN
FRONT OF THE PUNCH CYBORGS. SO
HE NEVER FORGOT WHY ALL THAT
PAIN WAS HAPPENING TO HIM..."

"...YEAH, FRANKIE ENDED
UP HERE, ALL RIGHT..."





The panel is set in a dark, industrial environment with pipes and machinery. In the foreground, a man with long dark hair, wearing a white lab coat over a black turtleneck, holds the head of a man with blonde hair. The blonde man has a shocked expression, with stars around his eyes. In the background, a man is suspended in the air, his body covered in blood and wounds. He is connected to various tubes and wires, and his mouth is open in a scream. A speech bubble from him reads: "...BUT WHO SAID HE WAS DEAD?".

"...BUT WHO SAID HE WAS DEAD?"

TO BE CONTINUED...